## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 ACDA-10 AID-05 MC-02 IGA-02 EUR-12 /106 R

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 082528

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT BRIEFING - APRIL 12, 1977

- 1. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT BRIEFING APRIL 12. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE PRESS GUIDANCE TELEGRAM ON ZAIRE.
- 2. Q. THERE'S A REUTER'S REPORT THAT THE U.S. IS CONSIDERING, OR IS ABOUT TO ANNOUNCE, SOME MORE AID TO ZAIRE. UNCLASSIFIED

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DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT?

A. THE ADMINISTRATION HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE. THIS IS NOT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE. IT AMOUNTS TO SOME 13 MILLION DOLLARS FOR NON-LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT, OF WHICH NINE MILLION IS FOR A C-130 ALREADY PURCHASED BY ZAIRE.

THE MONEY IS NOT NEW MONEY. IT IS PART OF SOME 30 MILLION DOLLARS WHICH REPRESENTS FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY CONGRESS FOR THE TRANSITIONAL QUARTER AND FOR FISCAL 1977 FOR

ZAIRE.

3. Q. CAN YOU BREAK DOWN THE AID? WHAT'S THE REST OF THE

FOUR MILLION?

A. THESE ARE ON THE CREDITS, THE AMOUNT OF MONEY ESTIMATES:

THIRTY AUXILIARY POWER UNIS FOR ANPRC-77 RADIOS.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY ANPRC-77 RADIOS.

THIRTY RACAL-931 RADIO SYSTEMS.

FIFTEEN 100-AMP IGNITION KITS.

C-130 PARTS.

PETROL.

COMMUNICATION SPARES.

SIGNAL PANELS (70 SETS).

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SPARES FOR TRUCKS AND JEEPS.

TWO COLLINS HF SSBN RADIOS.

C-130 NOSE GEAR REPAIR PARTS, AND LOCKHEED CESSNA SPARES.

THREE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIX C-130 SPARE PARTS -- COMING TO A TOTAL OF 3,843,000 DOLLARS.

THE C-130 IS 9,100,000 DOLLARS AND REMAINING M-1131 SPARES.

4. Q. DO YOU THINK THESE IGNITION PARTS AND THE RADIO SETS WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT, OR A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT, ON THEIR ATTEMPT TO BEAT OFF THE INVASION? AND IF IT WON'T, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING LETHAL?

A. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE WHICH WILL HELP THE ZAIRIANS TO STABILIZE THE SITUATION AND TO PROTECT THEIR BORDERS AND TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THEIR NATION.

THIS IS A CONSIDERED -- A CAREFULLY CONSIDERED -- RESPONSE TO ZAIRE'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, AND WE CONSIDER THAT IT IS APPROPRIATE TO THE SITUATION.

5. WELL, WHEN YOU SAY IT'S "CAREFULLY CONSIDERED," THAT SORT OF IMPLIES SOME BALANCE WAS STRUCK. IN OTHER WORDS,

YOU CAME DOWN IN THE MIDDLE SOMEPLACE. YOU COULD HAVE GIVEN THEM MORE; YOU COULD HAVE GIVEN THEM LESS. CAN YOU EXPAND ON THAT?

A. I REALLY CAN'T GO BEYOND THAT EXCEPT TO SAY THAT.

6. Q. WELL, I KNOW YOU WANT TO BE CAREFUL. I MEAN YOU DON'T GIVE AWAY 13 MILLION DOLLARS -- YOU KNOW -- WILDLY. UNCLASSIFIED

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YOU CAREFULLY CONSIDER THAT. BUT I WONDERED WHAT THE CONSIDERATIONS WERE. MAYBE THAT'S A BETTER WAY TO --

A. THE CONSIDERATIONS TO WHAT I'VE JUST OUTLINED? WHICH IS OUR CONCERN FOR THE STABILITY AND INTEGRITY OF ZAIRE.

7. Q. WELL, I SAY IF YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT THE STABILITY AND INTEGRITY OF ZAIRE, WHICH IS BEING INVADED, IT WOULD SEEM -- ONE APPROACH WOULD SEEM TO BE TO GIVE THEM LETHAL EQUIPMENT TO KICK THE INVADERS OUT AND RESTORE THEIR COUNTRY TO THE SHAPE IT WAS IN BEFORE THE INVADERS CAME IN. SO WHAT KEPT YOU FROM DOING SOMETHING MORE FOR ZAIRE?

A. I THINK I'M NOT GOING TO GO BEYOND THIS STATEMENT.

8. Q. HAS THERE BEEN DISCUSSION WITH THE FRENCH, THE BELGIANS AND THE MOROCCANS ABOUT COORDINATING AID SHIPMENTS?

A. NO, THERE HAS NOT.

9. Q. WHAT ABOUT THE REQUEST FOR AMMUNITION? IS THAT STILL OUTSTANDING?

A. WE HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR ZAIRE.

WE NOTIFIED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS INTERESTED THAT OUR ASSISTANCE IS GOING TO BE LIMITED TO NON-LETHAL SUPPLIES, WHICH WE WILL SEND TO ZAIRE AS PART OF OUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH THAT COUNTRY, ALREADY APPROVED BY CONGRESS.

10. Q. WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO SEND IT? YOU DON'T KNOW?

A. I DON'T HAVE A TIME TABLE, BUT THIS DECISION HAS ALREADY BEEN CHECKED OFF BY THE PRESIDENT AND AT THE WHITE UNCLASSIFIED

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HOUSE AND WILL FOLLOW THE FLOW.

I THINK THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IS THE PLACE FOR THAT.

11. Q. IS THE C-130 GOING TO BE SENT TO THEM PROMPTLY OR HAVE THEY ALREADY GOT IT?

A. THEY ALREADY HAVE IT BUT, AGAIN, I'M NOT SURE WHAT THE FLOW IS ON THIS; AND IT'S NOT AN ATTEMPT NOT TO TELL YOU. I JUST DON'T KNOW. AND I WOULD THINK THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE --

12. Q. WERE ALL THESE THINGS ON THE ORIGINAL LIST?

A. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, THE MAJOR ITEM IN ANY CASE WAS ON THE ORIGINAL LIST, WHICH IS THE AIRPLANE.

13. Q. IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT DID THE ZAIRIANS REQUEST THIS TIME?

A. THE EMERGENCY REQUEST?

14. Q. YES.

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT.

15. Q. CAN YOU OBTAIN THAT?

A. I DON'T BELIEVE SO. I THINK THAT'S IN THE NATURE OF A PRIVATE REQUEST, AND WE'VE TURNED IT DOWN.

16. Q. AND ARE THERE ANY OTHER PENDING REQUESTS FROM THE ZAIRIANS?

A. I KNOW OF NO OTHER, EXCEPT FOR THE ONE WE TURNED DOWN.

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17. Q. DID YOU TURN THIS DOWN BECAUSE YOU DON'T THINK THERE'S AN EMERGENCY THERE?

A. WE TURNED IT DOWN BECAUSE WE THOUGHT OUR RESPONSE, AS WE MEASURED IT, WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO STABILIZING THE SITUATION SO THAT MEDICATION (SIC) CAN GO ON.

18. Q. WAS THE ACTION BY THE FRENCH A MAJOR FACTOR IN THIS DECISION OR DID YOU MAKE THIS DECISION INDEPENDENTLY OF ANY ACTION THAT THE FRENCH, BELGIANS, MOROCCANS OR EGYPTIANS MAY OR MAY NOT BE TAKING?

A. THIS DECISION WAS MADE BECAUSE WE CONSIDERED IT TO BE

IN THE BEST INTEREST OF ZAIRE. IT WAS NOT MADE AS A RESULT OF SOME SET OF AGREEMENTS THAT WE HAVE WITH THE

FRENCH OR THE BELGIANS OR OF CONSULTATION INVOLVING A COOPERATIVE VENTURE IN THIS AREA. THERE IS NO COORDINATED VENTURE IN WHICH WE ARE PARTICIPATING, IN WHICH WE ARE CHECKING OFF WITH EACH OTHER AS TO WHAT WE'RE DOING IN TERMS OF A WELL COORDINATED PLAN.

19. Q. NO. THE QUESTION I HAVE IS REALLY: WHY ISN'T THERE COORDINATION WITH THE FRENCH, THE BELGIANS AND THE MOROCCANS, SINCE WE'RE ALL INTERESTED PRESUMABLY IN THE INTEGRITY OF ZAIRE? AND ARE OUR RELATIONS WITH FRANCE SO BAD THAT WE CAN'T DISCUSS THIS WITH THEM?

A. NO. OBVIOUSLY THERE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE GENERAL QUESTION OF ZAIRE. WE'VE ALREADY SAID THAT WE DISCUSSED THAT WITH THEM.

I THINK THAT THE FEELING IS THAT EACH NATION -- SOVEREIGN NATION -- THAT WISHES TO COME TO THE ASSISTANCE OF ANOTHER SOVEREIGN NATION HAS A RIGHT TO DO SO, BUT THAT'S NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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PART OF OUR PROCESS TO TELL OTHERS WHAT THEY SHOULD DO IN RESPONSE TO ZAIRE'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO DEFEND ITS BORDERS.

OUR PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY IS IN DIRECT RELATION TO ZAIRE'S REQUEST TO US.

20. Q. COULD YOU EXPLAIN IN TERMS OF TIME WHAT EXACTLY IT MEANS THAT IF THIS AID WAS IN ANY CASE PROMISED -- IF THIS AID WAS IN ANY CASE PROMISED AND APPROVED BY CONGRESS, WHAT DOES IT MEAN IN TERMS OF TIME; IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT KIND OF ACCELERATION IN THE DELIVERY IS GOING TO TAKE PLACE?

A. WELL, AS YOU KNOW -- I MEAN THE WHOLE QUESTION OF ARMS TRANSFER HAS BEEN UNDER REVIEW; AND THERE HAS BEEN, IN ANY CASE, A CHECKOFF ON EVERY DECISION WE HAVE MADE WHICH IS REQUIRED -- BOTH CONSULTATION INSIDE THE BUILDING AND IN A DECISION AT THE WHITE HOUSE -- IF YOU REMEMBER --

A. -- ON THIS -- SO THAT IN THAT RESPECT, THIS IS NOT PARTICULARLY UNUSUAL. THIS IS SIMPLY THE CHECKOFF ON ANOTHER PART OF ALREADY AUTHORIZED FUNDS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

NOW, INSOFAR AS ACCELERATION OR HOW FAST IT'S GOING TO GET THERE. AGAIN I DON'T HAVE THE ANSWER FOR THAT. ON

THAT ONE YOU'VE GOT TO GO TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. I JUST DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER.

21. Q. WELL, WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO ASK, IF I
MAY, TO JUST FOLLOW UP THAT, IF THE ZAIRIANS, WHICH APPARENTLY HAVE AN ARMY AND THEY NEED THE MOROCCANS AND THEN
THERE IS SOME TALK OF EGYPTIANS AND THEN RECRUITING ON
THE WEST COAST, DOESN'T THIS INDICATE TO THE STATE DEUNCLASSIFIED

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PARTMENT THAT THAT KATANGAN FORCE MUST BE A LOT LARGER THAN YOU ESTIMATED OR NOT?

A. I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE ESTIMATED.

22. Q. COULD YOU ESTIMATE NOW?

A. I DON'T HAVE AN ESTIMATE ON THAT. BUT, THE REFLECTION -- THE FACT, AS I SAID BEFORE-- I SAID YESTERDAY -- THE FACT THAT ZAIRE HAS DECIDED TO ASK ASSISTANCE FROM OUTSIDE, WHICH IS ITS RIGHT AS A SOVEREIGN NATION, INDICATES THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS SITUATION.

23. Q. YOU MENTIONED TODAY AND I THINK YOU DID YESTER-DAY ALSO ABOUT HOW SERIOUS THE SITUATION IS IN ZAIRE AND THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY THE ZAIRIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD HAVE TO ASK FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND YET THE ADMINISTRATION MAKES A DECISION NOT TO GRANT EMERGENCY MILITARY AID. IF THE SITUATION IS THAT SERIOUS, WHY DON'T YOU GRANT THE AID?

A. I THINK I SAID BEFORE THAT EACH OF US IS MAKING OUR DECISIONS BASED ON THE ASSESSMENT AS WE SEE IT OF WHAT THE SITUATION IS. WHAT WE SEE IS THE NEED FOR AN END TO THE FIGHTING, NOT AN EXPANSION OF THE FIGHTING, AND WE ARE CONCERNED WITH DOING WHAT WE THINK WILL HELP TO STABILIZE THE SITUATION AND ALLOW FOR THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION TO RESTORE THE INTEGRITY OF THE NATION OF ZAIRE.

24. Q. BUT DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION OR ANY INDICATION FROM THE INVADERS OR WHOEVER, YOU DON'T HAVE CONCRETE EVIDENCE BEHIND THE INVASION, THAT THEY TOO ARE INTERESTED IN MEDIATION AND AN END TO THE FIGHTING OR IS THIS A UNILATERAL HOPE?

A. WELL, AS YOU KNOW, THE KATANGANS, THIS IS NOT THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FIRST TIME THEY HAVE COME ACROSS THAT BORDER AND WE DON'T HAVE ANY INDICATION FROM THEM AT THIS POINT THAT THEY ARE

INTERESTED IN DOING ANYTHING EXCEPT WHAT I SAW A GENERAL LEADER IN THEIR ARMY SAID THEY WOULD DO, WHICH WAS TO SET

UP A SEPARATE PROVINCE WHICH WOULD BE UNDER THEIR CONTROL.

25. Q. YOU DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN; DO YOU?

A. NO. WE DON'T.

26. Q. THEN WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THEM THE WHEREWITHAL TO PREVENT IT?

A. IT IS OUR CONSIDERED JUDGEMENT THAT WHAT WE ARE PROVIDING WILL HELP THEM TO DO PRECISELY WHAT I HAVE SAID, WHICH IS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE ZAIRIANS TO BOTH STABILIZE AND RESTORE THE INTEGRITY OF THEIR BORDERS.

27. YES. MY QUESTION REALLY WAS BASED ON THE USE OF "MEDIATION" BEFORE. YOU SAID WE WANTED A STABILITY SO THERE COULD BE MEDIATION INSTEAD OF FIGHTING. BUT, TO MEDIATE YOU NEED TWO SIDES. SO, REALLY WHAT I AM ASKING IS DO YOU HAVE ANY STRONG WHIM OR HINT THAT THERE IS A BASIS?

A. THE NIGERIANS HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT, AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, WITH PEOPLE IN ANGOLA, THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA, AND WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE AND THAT PROCESS IS CONTINUING.

28. Q. CAN I JUST CLARIFY WHEN YOU SAID NO EMERGENCY AID WOULD BE GIVEN? IS THAT A EUPHEMISM FOR NO LETHAL EQUIPMENT?

A. THAT IS A EUPHEMISM FOR THEIR ADDITIONAL REQUEST FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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A LARGE NUMBER OF ITEMS, I SUPPOSE, AND WHEN YOU SAY "LETHAL" -- THAT MEANS THAT WE ARE NOT GOING BEYOND WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROPRIATED BY CONGRESS,

29. Q. I UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT THERE IS A WHOLE LOT OF MONEY APPROPRIATED BY CONGRESS. WHEN YOU SAY "EMERGENCY", EMERGENCY TO ME MEANS VERY PROMPTLY.

A. I AM SORRY. EMERGENCY MEANT IN ADDITION TO WHAT THEY ALREADY KNEW WAS IN THE PIPELINE.

30. Q. THIS STUFF WAS ALL IN THE PIPELINE, ALL THESE RADIOS?

A. WHAT WAS ALREADY IN THE PIPELINE WAS THE MONEY SET ASIDE FOR THIS IN THE FORM OF CREDITS.

31. Q. IN OTHER WORDS, THE WHOLE CONTEXT OF THIS CONVERSATION THE I THINK MY COLLEAGUES ASSUMES THAT EMERGENCY AID MEANT THAT THE U.S. WAS SAYING NO TO ANY LETHAL EQUIPMENT. IS THAT CORRECT?

A. WELL, LET ME ANSWER IT TWO WAYS. WE ARE SAYING NO TO ANY LETHAL EQUIPMENT, CORRECT.

32. Q. THERE WAS A REQUEST FOR IT?

A. WELL, I SAID I AM NOT GOING TO ITEMIZE WHAT DID THEY ASK FOR IN EMERGENCY. WE ARE SIMPLY SAYING THAT WHAT WE ARE PROVIDING IS NON-LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES.

33. Q. WELL, THEY ASKED FOR LETHAL EQUIPMENT THEN?

A. I AM NOT SAYING THAT. I AM NOT GOING INTO WHAT THEY REQUESTED. UNCLASSIFIED

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34. Q. YOU WERE GOING TO MAKE A SECOND REMARK.

A. I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT THE SECOND POINT WAS.

35. Q. I DON'T KNOW. YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO SAY TWO THINGS.

A. THE OTHER QUESTION IS ON EMERGENCY IT ALSO REFERS TO THEIR ADDITIONAL REQUEST WHICH WE ARE ANNOUNCING NOW THAT WE ARE REJECTING.

36. Q. IS THIS A FINAL DECISION? IS THERE ANY CHANCE THAT IN THE FUTURE THAT THE UNITED STATES MIGHT RECONISDER ITS DECISION ON NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING AT ALL ON THAT. I MEAN WE HAVE DECIDED THAT WE ARE NOT SENDING LETHAL EQUIPMENT AND I AM NOT GOING TO SPECULATE, YOU KNOW, INTO THE FUTURE AS TO WHAT WILL OR WON'T HAPPEN BECAUSE THAT IS IFEY AND I HAVE NO IDEA.

37. Q. WERE YOU INFLUENCED AT ALL BY THE ANGOLA EXPERIENCE IN COMING TO THIS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED DECISION?

A. I DON'T KNOW. I CAN'T COMMENT ON THAT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS IN MEN'S MINDS WHEN THEY MAKE DECISIONS.

WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY IS I WASN'T THERE WHEN THEY WERE

DISCUSSING THE THING AND SOMEBODY SAID "UH, ANGOLA", OR

ANYTHING OF THE SORT. I JUST DON'T KNOW.

38. Q. WHAT IF SOMEONE-- WELL, I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE DECISION PROCESS TO KNOW IF THE ANGOLAN THING WAS AN INHIBITING FACTOR IN WHETHER THE UNCLASSIFIED

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CUBANS AND SOVIETS CAN WITH IMPUNITY KEEP MOVING WHEREVER THEY FEEL LIKE IN AFRICA BECAUSE THERE WAS ONE ANGOLA.

A. YES. I JUST DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT.

39. Q. DID THE NIGERIANS ASK THE UNITED STATES SPECIFICALLY NOT TO SEND LETHAL EQUIPMENT --

A. TO MY KNOWLEDGE THERE WAS NO SUCH REQUEST.

40. Q.DO YOU KNOW WHEN MOBUTU WAS INFORMED OF THE AMERICAN DECISION REJECTING HIS REQUEST FOR LETHAL?

A. NO. I DON'T.

41. Q. WHAT IS THE ATTITUDE TO THE INTRODUCTION OF PARTIAL TROOPS, THE FRENCH? DO YOU WELCOME THAT OR DO YOU DEPLORE IT?

A. OUR REACTION IS THAT ONE NATION HAS RESPONDED TO THE CALL OF ASSISTANCE TO ANOTHER NATION IN THE DEFENSE OF ITS OWN BORDERS AND WE DON'T HAVE ANY COMMENT BEYOND THAT.

42. Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM THE PRESENCE OF FRENCH OFFICERS IN KOLWEZI?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON IT.

43. Q. HODDING, HAS THE DEPARTMENT EVER MADE ANY DETERMINATION WHETHER THE KATANGAN GENDARMES HAVE ANY RIGHT TO EXIST IN SHABA PROVINCE IF THEY CAME IN AS SAY PEACEFUL REFUGEES RETURNING TO THEIR HOMELAND OR DO YOU REGARD THEM AS A TOTALLY ALIEN FORCE NOW?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT, BUT IF THEY RETURNED PEACEFULLY TO A PART OF THE COUNTRY WHICH WAS THERE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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MADE A SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT THEN I WOULD ASSUME THAT WE HAVE NO OBJECTION. THAT IS AN INTERNAL MATTER FOR ZAIRE TO DECIDE. WE ARE NOT IN THE BUSINESS OF TELLING OTHER GOVERNMENTS WHO CAN AND CANNOT LIVE WITHIN THEIR BORDERS.

44. Q. BUT IT IS NOT REGARDED THEN AS A COMPLETELY FOREIGN INVADING FORCE?

A. YOU HAVE JUST SAID THEY ARE NOT COMING AS AN INVADING FORCE AND THE ANSWER TO THAT IS THEY ARE NOT COMING AS AN INVADING FORCE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES YOU ARE POSTULATING. VANCE

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